

9. The zoom lens according to claim 1 ~~or 4~~, which further comprises lens groups having positive refracting power, all of which have aspheric surfaces.

10. The zoom lens according to claim 1 ~~or 4~~, which further comprises lens groups having positive refracting power, all of which include cemented lens components.

11. The zoom lens according to claim 1 ~~or 4~~, which further comprises lens group having positive refracting power, which are each formed of one cemented lens component.

12. The zoom lens according to claim 1 ~~or 4~~, wherein the reflecting optical element for bending an optical path is formed of a prism block that satisfies the following medium condition:

$$1.55 < n_{pri} < 1.97 \quad \dots(2)$$

where n_{pri} is a d-line refractive index of a medium that forms the prism block.

19. The zoom lens according to claim 1 ~~or 6~~, wherein the reflecting optical element for bending an optical path comprises a variable-shape mirror with controllable shape.

20. An electronic imaging system comprising a zoom lens as recited in claim 1 ~~or 4~~ and an electronic image pickup device located on an image side thereof.